

## Soybean Harvest in Full Swing

This past week has been busy as the soybean harvest has begun full swing for many of our local farmers. For soybean farmers, it is important to be on the lookout for damage from the soybean cyst nematode as harvesting is underway. The soybean cyst nematode is the number one contributor to yield loss in soybeans throughout the United States. Directly after harvest is a great time to test for this pest in your soil as this is when populations are at their highest. Soybean cyst nematodes increase their population rapidly during the growing season, which is why testing after harvest is recommended. Testing for the SCN is done by collecting soil samples to determine the population size.

Symptoms can be highly variable, depending on the population density, presence of other pathogens, soil nutrient levels, rainfall, and planting-resistant varieties. Many plant issues cause similar symptoms such as chlorotic and necrotic plants. A reduced yield is common with a moderate to severe infestation. Moderate symptoms also include circular to oval patches of yellowed plants or plants becoming fully yellow and wilted. More severely infected plants appear stunted or end up necrotic. These symptoms are similar to drought and other weather-related stress symptoms, making soybean cyst nematodes difficult to detect. When looking at the roots you might notice bright white female nematodes. It is most common to notice the female nematodes around 4-6 weeks following soybean emergence.

In Ohio, it is possible to have 3 to 5 generations of soybean cyst nematode in one growing season. As eggs hatch, they become roundworms emerging at 1/64<sup>th</sup> of an inch long. When these juveniles find a soybean root, they penetrate and begin feeding on the soybean root. Females will attach to the feeding site as they produce several hundred eggs and get too large to stay inside the root, this is when they become visible to detect. The female ones will be on the outside of the root as they change from white in appearance to brown. Eggs can survive in the soil for years. Newly hatched juveniles cannot travel far distances to find soybean roots, this is why rotating crops can help reduce the population significantly. Since they cannot travel more than a few inches on their own, they are often transported by "hitching rides" via animals, wind, flooding, or machinery.

Collecting a soil sample to test for soybean cyst nematode is the same as collecting a standard soil sample. Using a soil probe, collect samples at 6-8 inches deep. Following a zigzag pattern or create an "M" in your field and collect 10-20 soil cores per every 10 acres. Mix the soil cores in a bucket and place 2 cups of the composite sample in a soil sample bag or plastic bag and have them sent to a lab that tests for this pest. The C. Wayne Ellett Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic (OSU), Brookside, and Spectrum Analytic are local laboratories that test for soybean cyst nematodes. If you have any questions, contact your local extension office.

## Reminders and Events

Please be mindful of the farming traffic we are seeing on the roads for the next month or so as everyone finishes their harvesting. Farmers have a job to do and sometimes that job requires slow-moving vehicles on the roadways. There are still several soybeans and cornfields that will be harvested over the next few weeks, please be patient with our hard-working farmers!

There have been a few cases of both buckeye and cherry tree leaf poisoning in cattle locally. Be cautious of an abundance of buckeyes in your fields as well as any wilted cherry tree leaves. The leaves of all stone fruit trees become highly toxic to livestock only when they are wilted. Once they dry out, they are no longer considered toxic.

The OVCTC Field Night is coming up. Come out to support the students who work hard at the Agribusiness Cooperative and School Farm. The event is October 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:00. Register for free by calling 614-247-9757 or by visiting [go.osu.edu/ovctc](http://go.osu.edu/ovctc)

Attention Horse Owners- Ohio State University is conducting a survey about standard management practices of horses in Ohio and hopes to hear from you. The survey can be found at [https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bJi3NGZLGI8yuVM](https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bJi3NGZLGI8yuVM)

The Ohio Community Wildlife Cooperative Conference is on November 15<sup>th</sup> in Columbus for those who are facing wildlife issues or concerns. "This year's topics include addressing beaver issues, urban pond and goose management, the conservation value of wildlife, best practices for backyard design to avoid conflict with wildlife, and managing pollinator plots in town." Call the local extension office for any help with registering or to learn more about this event go to <https://u.osu.edu/ocwc/>